GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:810
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2011
INTEGRATED WASTELAND DEVELOPMENT SCHEME
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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Integrated Wasteland Development Programme has been implemented in Bihar;

(b) if so, the area of wasteland reclaimed under the programme during each of the last three years; and

(c) the area of wasteland targeted to be reclaimed during the next three years alongwith the names of the agencies whose assistance is proposed to be taken for the reclamation of the said land?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SISIR KUMAR ADHIKARI)

(a) Yes. 65 IWDP projects covering an area of 3.21 lakh ha in 31 districts have been sanctioned in Bihar since 1995-96 to 2006-07 and an amount of Rs. 43.898 crore has been released till date as central share in these projects. So far, the State has closed 35 non-performing projects and refunded an amount of Rs. 7.18 crore towards the unspent balance of these projects. Out of 30 ongoing projects, no proposal has been received from the State for claim of next instalment in case of 12 projects in the past one year. In the remaining 18 ongoing projects documents/clarifications have been sought from the State Govt. as the proposals received were incomplete. However, no response has been received from the State in this regard.

(b) A study on Wasteland Change Analysis between 2005-06 and 2008-09 has been given by the Department of Land Resources to National Remote Sensing Centre, Hyderabad to understand the dynamics of wasteland through comparison of spatial statistics. This study will enable the Department to assess the extent of wastelands converted to cultivable land between these two periods. However, the assessment of year wise acreage of wasteland converted to cultivable land is not feasible through this study.

(c) Department of Land Resources is implementing area development programmes namely Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP) and Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP) on watershed basis. These three programmes have now been integrated and consolidated into a single modified programme called Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) on 26.02.2009. IWMP is being implemented as per Common Guidelines for Watershed Development Projects, 2008. Under IWMP the state of Bihar had been given the following yearwise targets -

Years	Area in lakh ha	Status
2009-10	1.3	No proposal has been received from State
2010-11	2.11	State Level Nodal Agency (the dedicated institution for implementing IWMP projects), Bihar submitted proposals of IWMP in 10 districts covering an area of 1.76 lakh ha against the target area of 2.11 lakh ha during 2010-11. On examination of Preliminary Projects Reports (PPRs), many discrepancies were found and referred back to the State for necessary action. The revised PPRs were not received during
2011-12	2.17	No proposal has been received from the State so far.